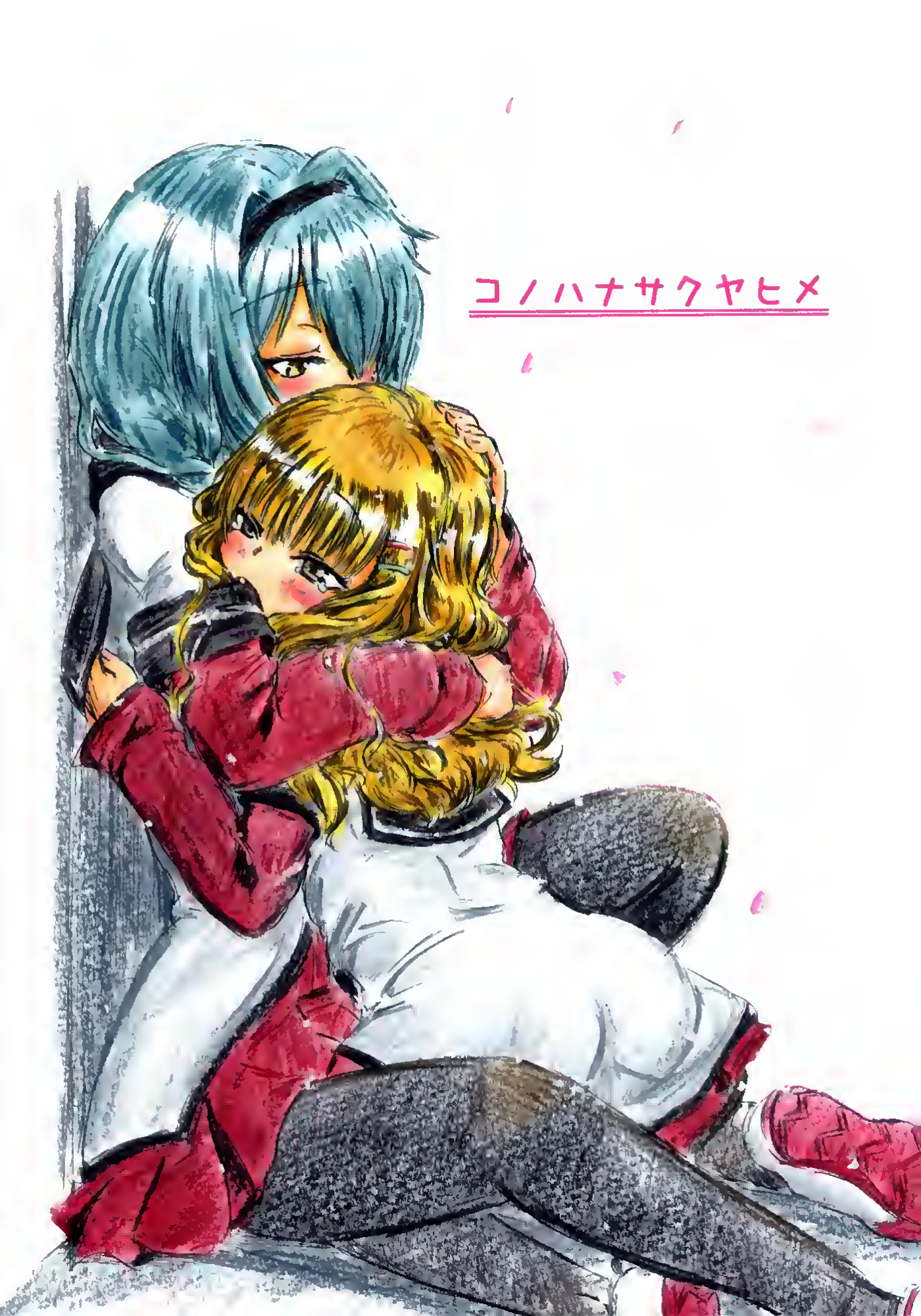
コノハナサクヤヒメ



KONOHANASAKUYA-HIME

It's not like I hate being with her or anything.
Rather, I'm happy and I have fun.

But... it feels awkward, too.

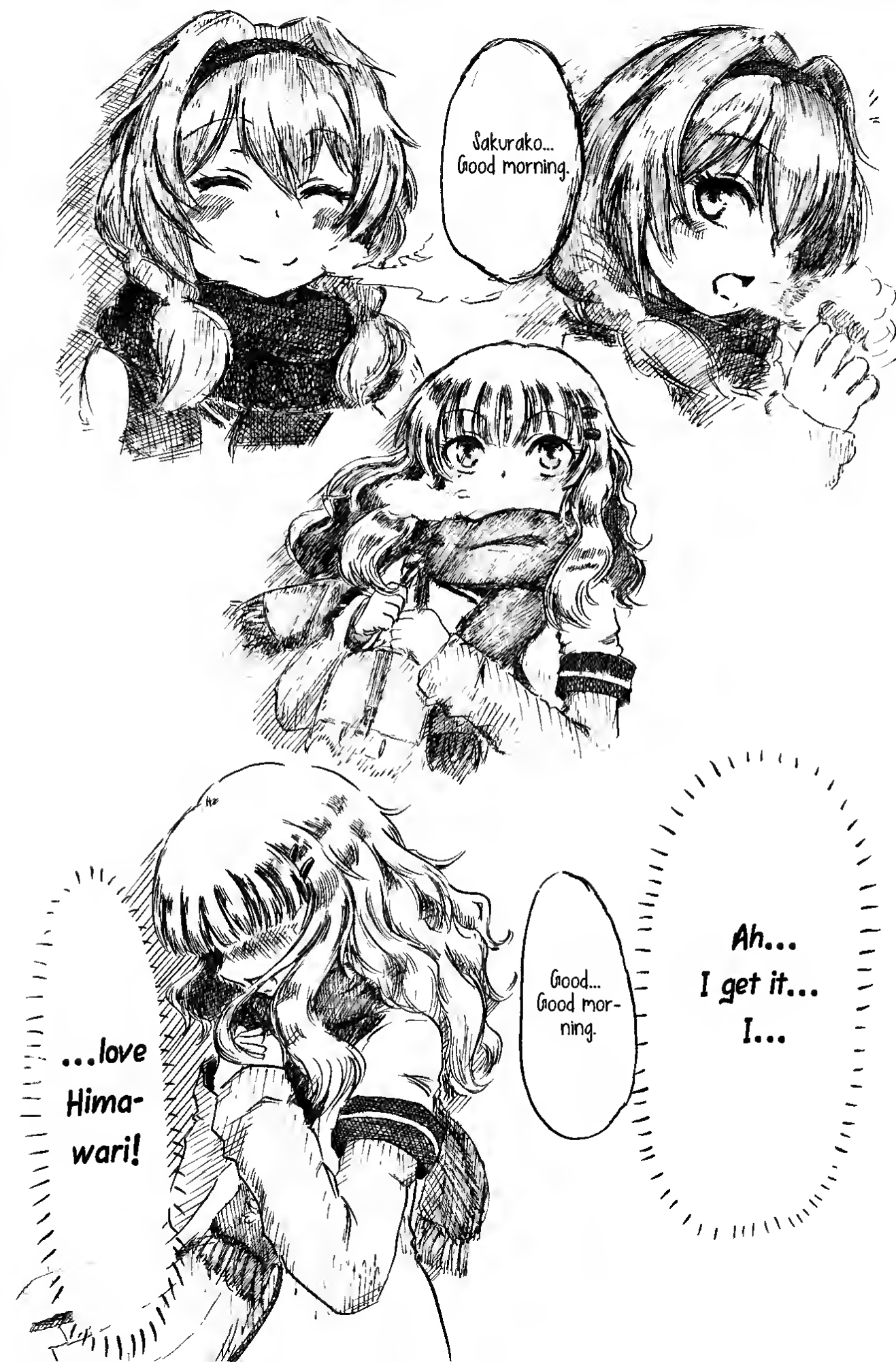
Lately when I'm thinking about Himawari...

It feels all fuzzy...
I don't get it...

Even though I want to tell her how happy I am,
it always turns into a fight,

and afterwards my chest hurts.
...Why is that...

RING RING
EH?!... IT'S MORNING ALREADY?!
YAAAAAWN
That Himawari hasn't been waking me up lately!
Geez~
This is all Himawari's fault!
HAA


Sakurako... Good morning.
Good... Good morning.
Ah... I get it... I...
...love Hima-wari!

Hey... Your face is bright red.
!
. . .
SAKU-RAKO!
I-IT'S NOT RED OR ANY-THING! STUPID! STUPID!
HAA
HAA

Are you alright?
I'm just tired.

I got away.
I'm going to have to see her in class anyway...
My face is hot.
uuu...
This is all... Himawari's fault.

I'M TAKING TODAY OFF!
Sakurako, we have student council...

...
I wonder if Sakurako-chan's okay?
I'm a little concerned.

I haven't been able to concentrate all day.
I'm making Himawari worry, too.
I can't answer her properly.

Just when I was thinking it was getting cold~
SNOW!
What am I doing?
I ran away again.
Ah.
Right, Hima-wari?

Hmph...
It's warm, so it's fine...
...I'm home.

Welcome back.
Sakurako, do you want something to drink too?
SOMETHING HOT
There's hot choc-o-late or ginger tea.
Hmm...?
...No thanks.
I'll have both the hot chocolate and the ginger tea!
EH?
KNOCK KNOCK
Saku-rako, can I come in?

That Hanako said that you were acting strange, so I came to see what's up.
Onee-chan?
What is it?
PAT
but you blushed and got embarrassed, and ended up running away.
Nine times out of ten it's gonna be Himako
SOB
SOB
...So, basically, you've fallen for some girl you meet with every day.
You really are an idiot, Sakurako...
Eh?

how do you think your friend's going to feel?
If you keep on avoiding her by running away,
As it is now, Himako's going to think you hate her.
What does that girl mean to you, Saku-rako?
Uh...
I DON'T WANT THAT!!
I...
I let Himako's name slip...

It's fine to just tell her in a way that suits you, Sakurako.
A way... that suits me.
GRIP
But... how can I tell her?

Now go have a bath and get something to eat.
Okay, okay.
HANAKO IS WORRIED, TOO.

To Himawari,
Wait for me
on the rooftop!
TO HIMAWARI
It's as if I'm being challenged to a duel.

My...
GIGGLE
These footprints... I hope she wasn't in such a rush she tripped over.

Hima-wari!
You came!
STEP
STEP
Tha... That's right.
You're the one who called me here, right?
...Um. Sorry about yester-day.
And also, thanks for everything.

Even though we're both girls... Hi-
ANYWAY!
I, um...
IN LOVE WITH YOU!!
HIMA-WARI, I THINK I MIGHT BE...

?!
STOP RIGHT THERE, SAKU-RAKO!
I-IT'S OKAY IF YOU DON'T ANSWER RIGHT AWAY!
I WANT TO, UM...
I...
Okay.
tell you my feelings clearly.

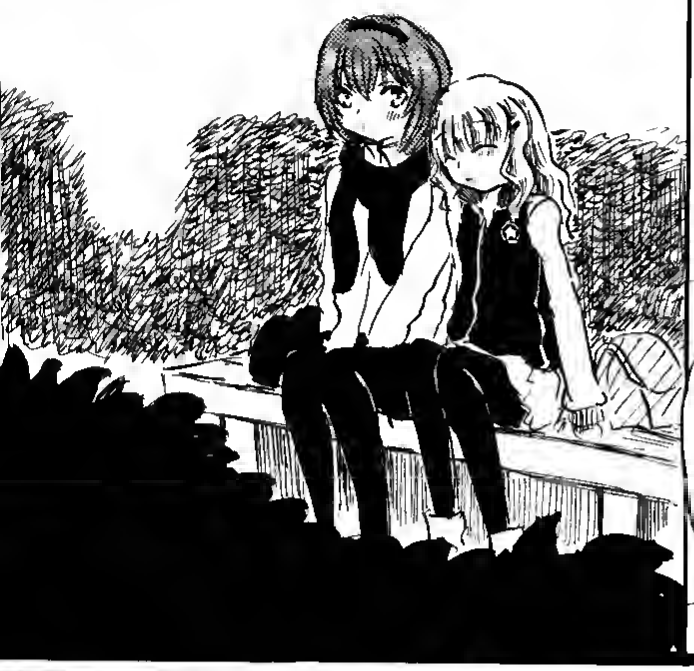
What's most precious to me right now is Oomuro Sakura... It's you.
I also
love you, Sakurako.
HIMA-WARII!
Hima-warii.
Hima-wari
Hima...

Hey, Saku-rako.
I'm sorry, Saku-rako.
What for?
Have you calmed down now?
...Yeah.
All this time I've wanted to embrace you...
All of the times when you're troubled, and the times when you're crying... I wanted to do this for you.

The moment when I realized my own feelings was

last year

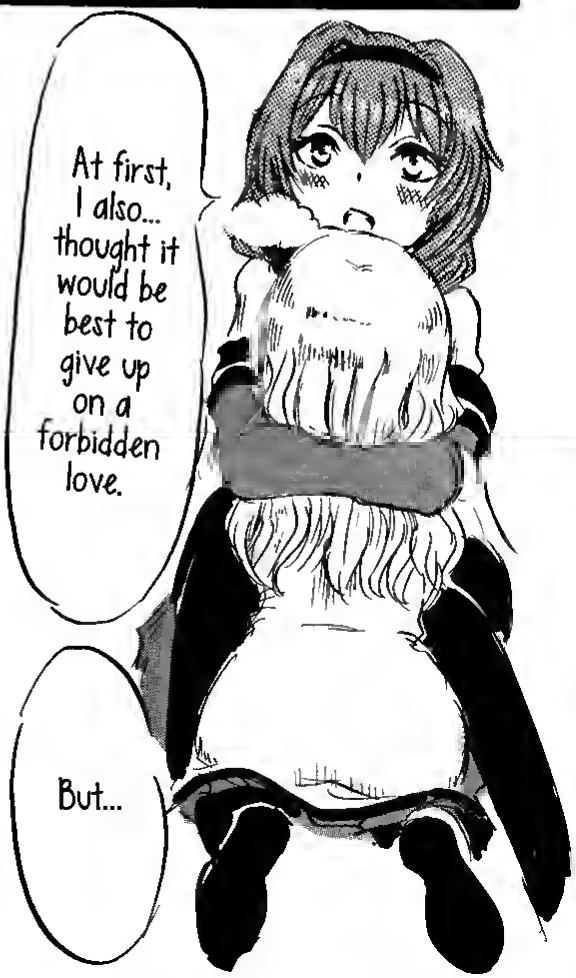
when we got lost together.

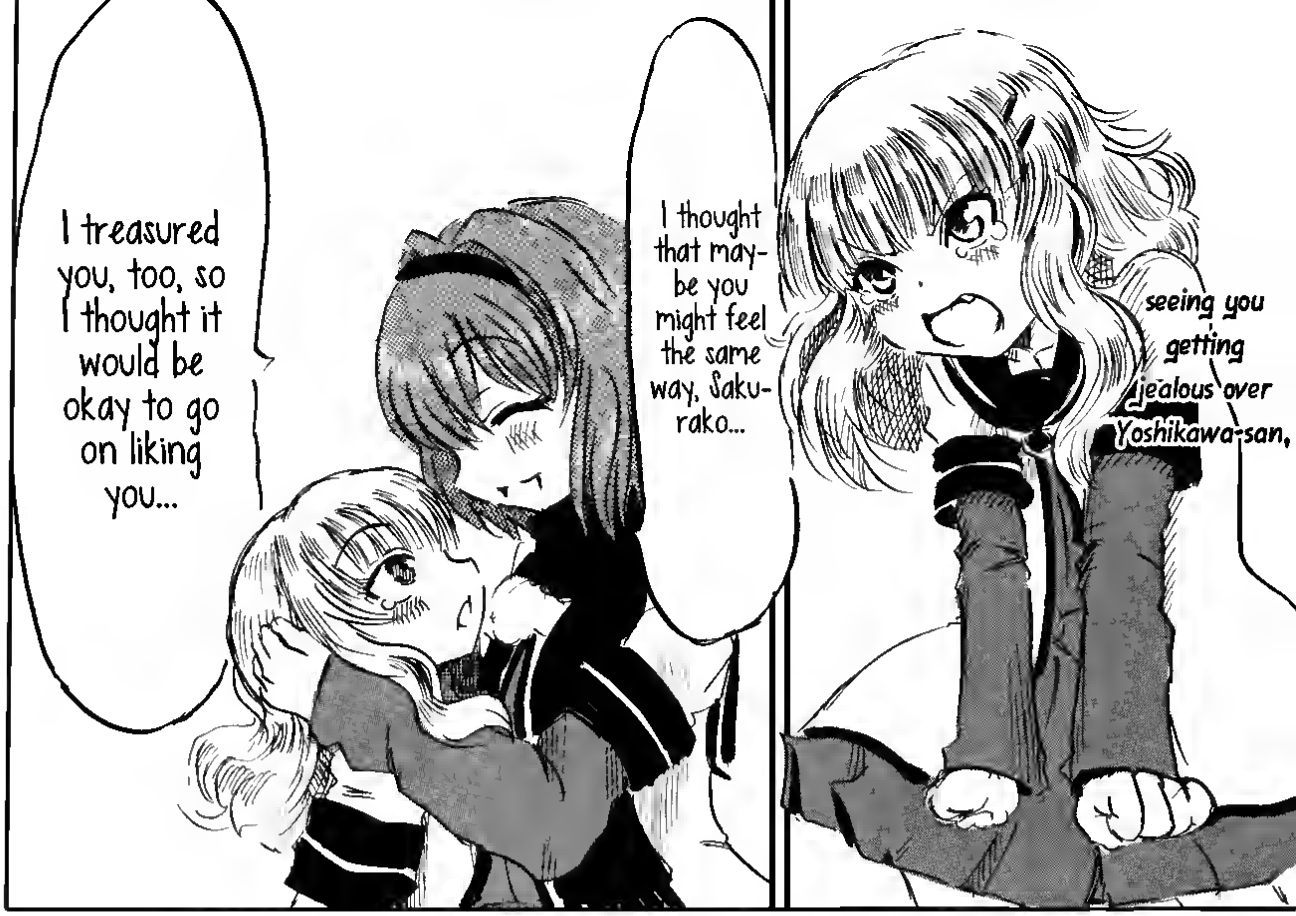


At the time when I was making your muffler,

seeing the effort Yoshikawa-san put into her feelings,

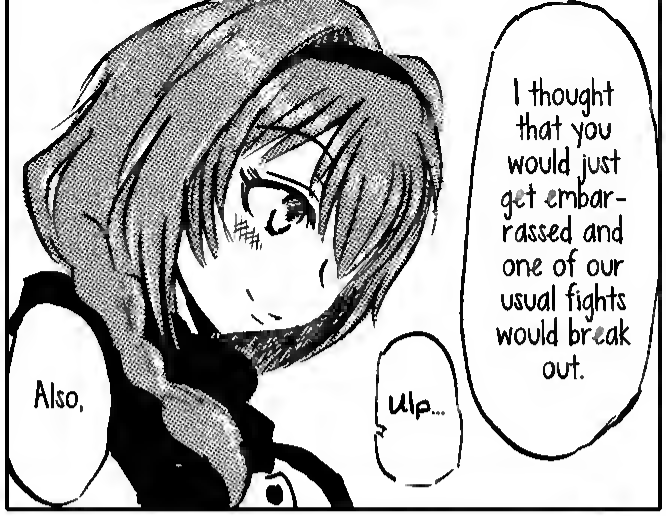
and also...



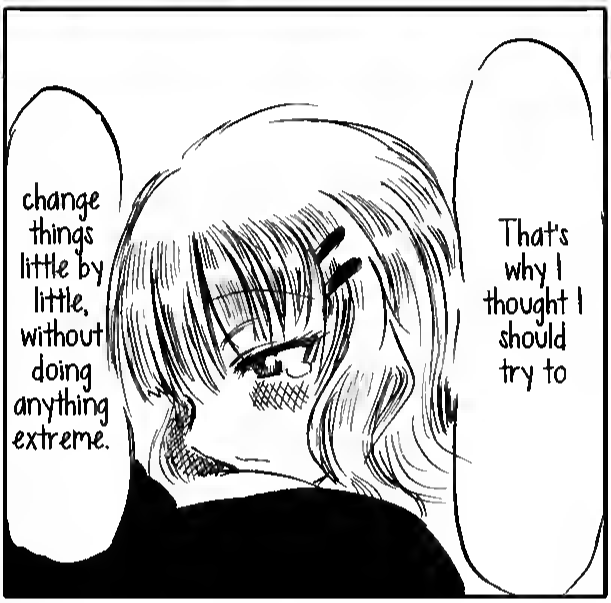

I treasured you, too, so I thought it would be okay to go on liking you...
I thought that maybe you might feel the same way, Sakurako...
seeing you getting jealous over Yoshikawa-san,

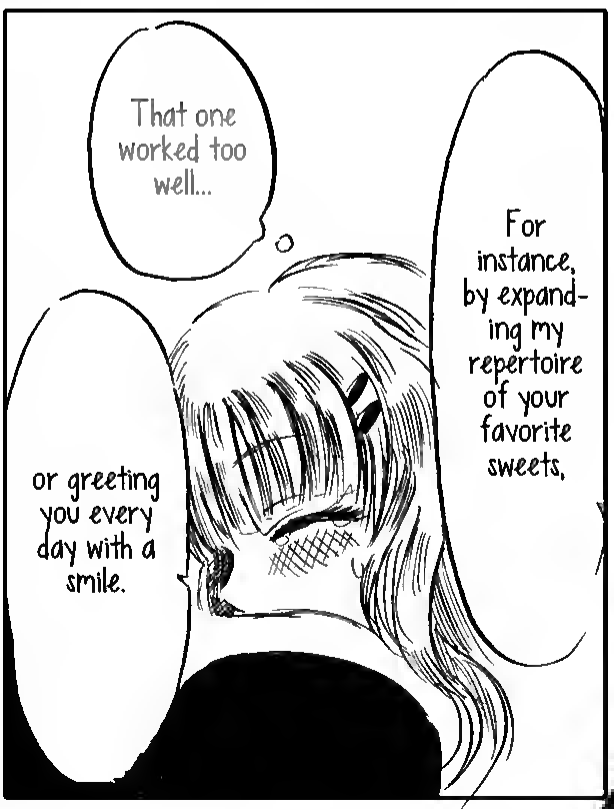
And so I treasured spending my time with you

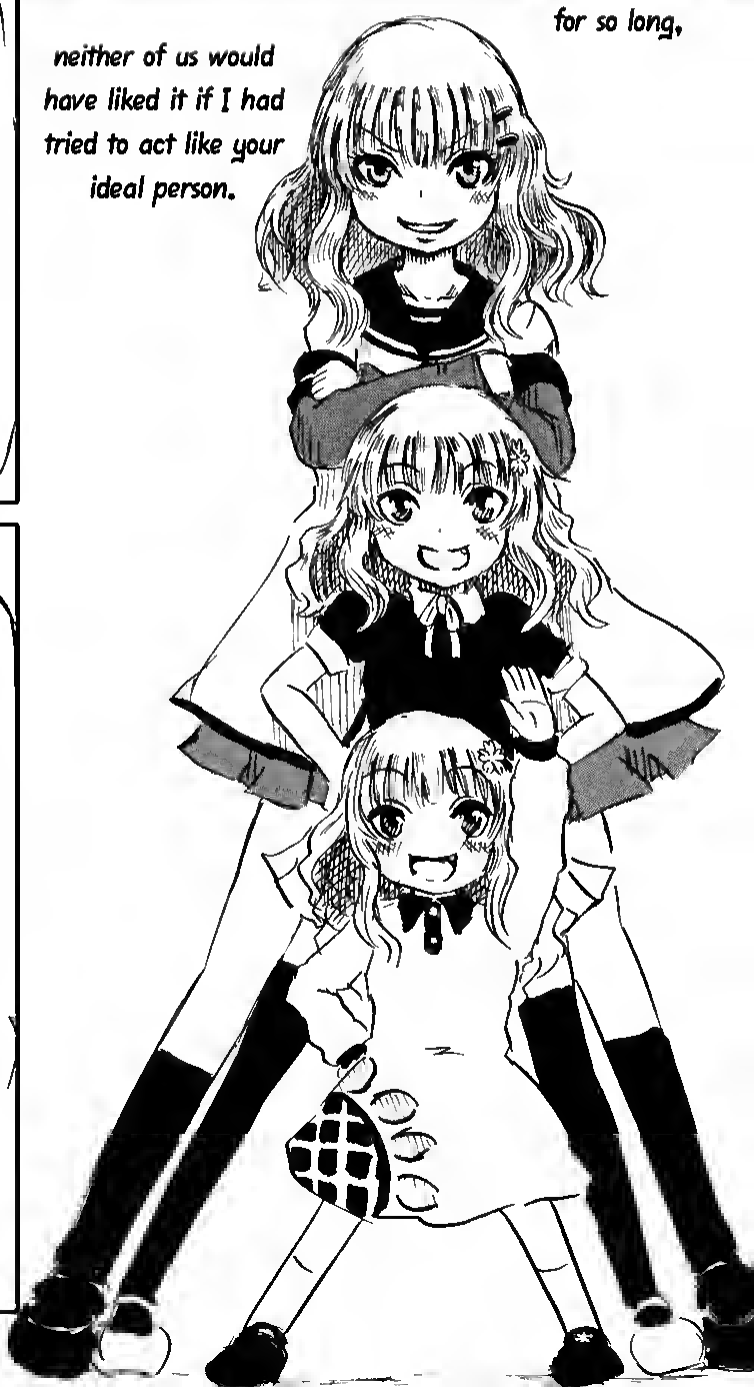
while hoping that you might gradually fall for me, as well.


I thought that you would just get embarrassed and one of our usual fights would break out.
Ulp...
Also,

?
Why did you never confess yourself, Himawari?


That's why I thought I should try to
change things little by little, without doing anything extreme.


That one worked too well...
For instance, by expanding my repertoire of your favorite sweets,
or greeting you every day with a smile.


because we've known each other for so long,
neither of us would have liked it if I had tried to act like your ideal person.

...Hey, Sakurako, it's about time we got ready for class...
Goodness... even though she's a member of the student council.
Suu—
Suu—
We're both the same...
THE END

EH...
OH NO!
HIMAWARI... FOURTH PERIOD HAS STARTED!
Himawari fell asleep too

AFTERWORD

I om colled Gokku.

Thonk you very much for purchosing this book.

How did you find "Konohonosokuyo-hime"?

Since Sokuroko wos the moin chorocter, I chose a title reloted to cherry blossoms.

The goddess Konohonosokuyo-hime's sacred tree was the cherry tree, ond so I thought it might be good to echo thot princess with the girly Sokuroko.

By the woy, Ninigi (Ame-nigishi-kuni-nigishi-omotsuhiko-hiko-ho-no-ninigi-no-mikoto) wos Konohonosokuyo-hime's husbond.

When reoding the occounts of his rule of the Hyugo province, I noticed thot the konji for "Hyugo" were the some ones thot Himowori's nome storts with, so thot works well, too.

But onywoy, Himosoku is justice! I con woit for their duet song.

I'm steodily putting up more pictures on pixiv ond the like, so look for me there.

Well then, loter!

Secret Bose 529

GOKKU

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